

ST. JOHNS REVIEW

Photo by Chris Alexander

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Taxpayers may be on hook for more than the Superfund Feasibility Study

By Barbara Quinn
Review Reporter

Not only are Portland taxpayers contributing \$52 million to the Superfund Feasibility Study, an inordinate amount considering their lack of responsibility for chemical contamination, the study's recommendations may continue to expose them to toxins and will likely lead to future public costs.

The Superfund Feasibility Study draft created by the Lower Willamette Group (LWG) made up of 14 potentially responsible parties, recommends inadequate clean up methods such as toxic waste dumps and so-called Monitored Natural Recovery (MNR), a heav-

ily relied upon option that leaves toxins in place and waits/hopes for them to disappear. Unfortunately, there is little scientific evidence to support it according to both the Advisory's consultant, Peter de Fur, PhD and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A presentation by the LWG purporting to show scientific evidence for the option, simply noted that the lessening of fish toxicity over several years is evidence it works, though it was admitted other factors could contribute to the effect such as better upland source control and higher recent water flows.

The toxic waste dump option

*Continued on Page 3
"Superfund Study"*

Program offers children a chance to shine

By Erin Fried
Program Coordinator | The Aspire Project

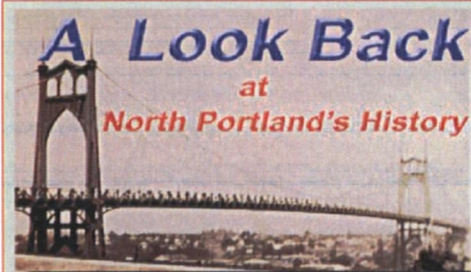
It is not everyday that a 5th grader has the opportunity to dance in front of 400+ people; an opportunity that most adults would shy away from in a heartbeat.

But there is no doubt that 5th grader, Anna, is excited, and she says the best way to achieve her aspiration to be ballerina someday is, "to take a lot of classes and do the best you can."

Anna is one of the many economically disadvantaged students learning ballet from The Aspire Project, a non-profit dance organization teaching classes out of their studio in the historic Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center (IFCC). Through the organization's sliding scale tuition rates,

these dance classes are made accessible to all passionate North Portland youth, regardless of the

families' financial situation. And
*Continued on Page 8
"Aspire"*



By Gayla Patton
Review Editor

Photo's courtesy
Connie Lenzen

There are many stories to be told by North Portlanders



who witnessed the construction of the St. Johns Bridge, but more than likely most have long since passed.

Connie Lenzen, who has a passion for history, became a Board-certified genealogist (proficient in all areas of genealogical research) after a conversation with her grandma, one of the lucky witnesses.

Connie said, "I started down the path that led me to become a professional genealogist when my grandmother, Lloyolla Tzila Miller asked me, 'Have you seen what is in grandpa's diary?' Of course I hadn't, and I didn't know at that time that his diary, and the mysteries in it, would change my life.

As I read them, I had many questions that grandma was able to answer. For the questions she couldn't answer, it was obvious that she was interested in learning their answers, and so I started researching. Our weekly visits were

Pics taken by young resident during 1930's capture early St. Johns Bridge construction

often peppered with what I found and what she had brought down from the attic."

At the genealogy classes Connie now teaches at the Hollywood Senior Center for Portland Parks & Rec., she showed the class some of her grandma's pictures. Someone in the class told her the St. Johns Review was looking for old pictures, and so Connie graciously thought it would be interesting to share what a twenty-year-old girl saw as the bridge was being constructed, with Review readers.

Lloyolla Tzila Miller was born May 28, 1910, in the small town of Charlotte, Michigan. In 1918, at the age of eight, she moved to Portland with her father, mother, and younger brother, Grayland.

After living in the Mt. Scott area for a short time, in 1918 she and her family moved out to North Portland and lived on Wabash. Both Lloyolla and Grayland attended the old Peninsula Grade School and Graduated from Roosevelt High School. She lived on Wabash until her passing in 1979. Being a longtime resident Lloyolla was able to watch the pastures and wooded areas change and grow into a bustling community. As a young girl she witnessed the Bridge become a reality, and enthusiastically took at job in the Bridge's construction company,

J. H. Pomeroy as a bookkeeper. Fortunately for current day residents, she always carried her camera with her and was able to capture the Bridge's birth and

growth.

Connie said, "Grandma was

*Continued on Page 8
"Bridge Construction"*



Lloyolla Miller standing on the St. Johns Bridge during its construction. She was a bookkeeper and delighted in delivering messages to the workers up on the bridge.

The wooden walkway used at the top of the concrete piers, which can be seen to the right of it.

(All photos courtesy of Connie Lenzen)



Deck being constructed.



Review Publishing box / Organization Meetings / Letters

North Portland Meetings

The following free listings are meetings for North Portland organizations.
Updated information is the responsibility of each organization.

ARBOR LODGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN:

Meet on the 3rd Thursday each month, 6:30-8pm, Kenton Firehouse, 2209 N. Schofield

BOY SCOUT TROUPE 52:

Meets Tuesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Johns Christian Church, 8044 N. Richmond. We welcome boys ages 11-17. For membership info, contact Anthony at 503-913-7085.

BRIDGETON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION:

General Meeting: 3rd Mondays at 8pm, Port Yacht Club, 1241 NE Marine Dr.

CUB SCOUT PACK 52:

Meets Mondays at St. Johns Christian Church, 8044 N. Richmond.

EAST COLUMBIA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN:

Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 7-8:30pm at the Columbia River RV Park Community Room, 10649 NE 13th.

FRIENDS OF CATHEDRAL PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN:

General Meeting: odd months at BES Water Lab; 7pm. Board Meetings on even months at St. Johns McMenamins, 7:30. All meetings on 2nd Tuesdays of the month.

FRIENDS OF BALTIMORE WOODS:

General meeting: 3rd Tuesdays, 6:30pm at the BES Water Lab, 6543 N. Burlington.

FRIENDS OF PIER PARK MEETING:

Third Tuesday, 6:30pm at St. Johns Community Ctr., 8427 N. Central

HAYDEN ISLAND NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK:

Meetings: 2nd Thursday, 7pm, at former HIYC, 12050 N. Jantzen Dr. on Hayden Island.

INTERSTATE CORRIDOR BUSINESS ASSOCIATION:

General Meeting: 1st Wed. every 3 mos., 8-9am @ Nite Hawk Restaurant, Rosa Parks Way & Interstate

KENTON BUSINESS ASSN:

1st Thursday of the month, 9am at Kenton Firehouse 2nd fl. 2209 N. Schofield

KENTON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN:

Board Meetings: 2nd Wed., 7pm, Kenton Firehouse, 8105 N. Brandon

LINNTON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION:

Meetings: 1st Wed. of odd months; 7-9 at Linnton Comm. Ctr., 10614 NW St. Helens Rd.

NORTH PORTLAND LAND USE GROUP:

Meets 4th Thursday of the month at Kenton Firehouse, 8105 N. Brandon. 7pm

OCCUPY ST. JOHNS:

Meets Weds. 7:00pm at Anna Bannanas, 8716 N. Lombard

OVERLOOK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN:

General Meetings: 3rd Tues of each month except Aug & Dec at Kaiser Town Hall, 7-9pm. Board Meetings: 1st Tues. each month at Overlook Hse, 3839 N. Melrose Dr.

PENINSULA OPTIMIST CLUB:

Meets 1st and 3rd Mondays (except holidays) at noon at Christie's Restaurant, 5507 N. Lombard. General public is welcome to attend meetings to learn about the club. There will be a guest speaker at most meetings. Questions—contact Sharon at 503-490-2889.

PIEDMONT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN.:

Unavailable

PORTLAND HARBOR COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP EDUCATION FORUM:

February 12, March 10, April 7, at 6:30 6543 N. Burlington, under the St. Johns Bridge at the BES Water Quality Control Lab—meeting rooms. Questions, Jackie 503-799-7855 or www.portlandharborcag.info

PORTLAND HARBOR COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

Offers a gathering of thoughts on the Superfund. Concerns about the contamination in the Portland Harbor Superfund? Join the community to meet with the agencies in charge. Meetings include Informational presentations; Opportunity to render your opinion. Meet agency leaders in charge of clean up. 2nd Wednesday-Monthly at BES: 6543 N. Burlington, beneath the St. Johns Bridge 6:00 PM. www.portlandharborcag.info

PORTSMOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN:

Board Meeting: 3rd Tues of ea mo., 6pm, Bridge Meadows, Bridge Community Room, 8502 N. Wayland

PUBLIC SAFETY ACTION COMMITTEE:

Meets 4th Wed. ea. mo., 7-9pm, Kenton Firehouse, 2209 N. Schofield. Contact: Mark Wells: markwells@portlandoregon.gov

ST. JOHNS BOOSTERS:

General Meetings are 3rd Tues at Central Hotel, 7:30-8:30. Meal provided. Board meetings are 1st Tuesday at 7pm at Central Hotel.

ST. JOHNS LIONS CLUB:

Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays each month at Patti's Deli, downtown St. Johns

ST. JOHNS MAIN STREET:

Meets at 8250 N. Lombard. For more info go to: stjohnsmainstreet.org

ST. JOHNS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION:

General Meeting is 2nd Mon. at the St. Johns Community Ctr, 8427 N. Central.

UNIVERSITY PARK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION:

Meets in 2014: 2/25; 4/22; 6/24; 9/23; 11/18 at 7pm at Darcy's at the corner of Fiske/Lombard from 6-7:30pm.

UNIVERSITY PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION:

Meets: Jan., Apr., July & Oct on 4th Monday 7pm at the Chiles Center at the UP, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd.

Letters To The Editor

Remembering the Kesery brothers

Dear Editor,

I read the letter To the Editor where that guy said he went to school with Leon and Richard (Dickie) Kesery and the older brother Gerald (Jerry). (Letter in March 28, 2014 issue referring to Historic article by Jim Speirs in March 14, 2014 Review issue.)

I grew up with them too, and went to school with them. They both drowned in 1955; they lived in what we called the Camp right near our boathouse. They are buried in the Old Columbia Cemetery on the left as you go into the cemetery!

Oregon Shipyard Camp is what we called it. There was a store there a long time ago. Managed and owned I think by the Widmer's.

We lived on the boathouse on the slough and they spent a great deal of time with us. This picture was somewhere around 1950.

I have wondered through the years about Jerry and how he did losing both brothers. It was so tragic! Just thought you would like to know.

Betty Creveling
El Cajon, CA



Leon Jerry. And Dickie Kesery

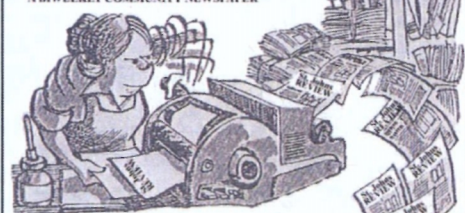
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter To the Editor are welcome and encouraged. They are not necessarily the views of the editor and the editor is not responsible for their content. Letters may be edited for size/grammar. They must be legibly written and contain a signature/name. Letters that do not, will not be read or used. Send letters to the addresses at the top of this page.

NEXT REVIEW ISSUE IS THE MAY 9 ST JOHNS PARADE ISSUE.

Deadline for insertion of ads & articles is April 30th.

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Contributing Writers: Barbara Quinn, Jim Moulton, Robin Wright



Community News

Superfund Study: Cont. from Page 1

Between Our Rivers

By
Barbara
Quinn



is relatively cheap and proposes to dredge contaminants from one part of the river and concentrate them in other parts of the river—T-4 in the St. Johns neighborhood and at the bottom of Swan Island Lagoon. There is no way to ensure that carcinogens would not find their way into the dumps and continue to expose residents to health hazards through leakage and airborne chemicals.

Further, both dumpsites are located in flood and earthquake hazard zones though the study does not provide models for the expected 9 Richter scale earthquake, or a 500-year flood. Since the dumps have to last indefinitely, recontamination is assured. In a future recontamination scenario without superfund in place, costs could be

passed on to taxpayers given our leaders' apparent lack of political will to hold businesses responsible.

So who is looking out for the community in this process? Advisory members met with Rep. Earl Blumenauer for the first time recently and were informed by him that the public doesn't care about the superfund. In recent years he's met several times with the businesses and has written letters to national EPA on their behalf asking for a faster and more economic superfund. Advisory members have no problem with efficiency unless it means clean-up methods destined to fail, which in this case it does. Actually, the letters are on Blumenauer's own behalf too since he and his wife have stock

and her large salary tied up with one of the potentially responsible parties, NW Natural. Unfortunately, a number of other state and national leaders claim they will follow Blumenauer's lead.

Governor Kitzhaber? Last year he eased rules making it possible to use citizen-owned state land under Slip 1 at T-4 as a fill site for toxic waste even though Advisory members testified in opposition to it.

City leaders? Their representatives plan to be at the June 11, general meeting of the Portland Harbor Community Advisory. It is an opportunity to express to local leaders that we do not want to be saddled with the costs of superfund, and to let them know we want an efficient and effective clean up.

All are welcome to the second Wednesday, Portland Harbor Community Advisory meeting, June 11, 2014, from 6pm to 8pm at the BES Water Lab at 6543 N. Burlington.

Event offers options for those interested in aging in their own home

Coordinator for a North Portland Village, Pat Opdyke, has organized an event for Saturday, April 26 from 2:00pm-4:00pm at the St. Johns Library (N. Charleston) about how the community can create a Village to serve the area.

Villages are networks of volunteer services and reduced-cost professional support that foster affordable, interdependent aging in a community. They also feature programs to keep residents engaged with others while enjoying activities ranging from fitness groups to classes and social events.

Opdyke said, "Now is the time to build a North Portland Village

so we can continue living in our own homes — as homeowners, renters, seniors sharing housing or living with relatives. We can benefit from more than a decade of experience from the 130+ villages that have formed nationwide." More than 150 Villages are in development across the states, including six here in the Portland metro area!

She invites everyone and suggests they bring a neighbor or friend to learn more about the Portland metro-area Village Movement and how everyone can join the team planning a Village unique for North Portland residents.

Parade Entry Forms Available

The St. John's Parade Committee says that entry forms for this year's event are now available at U.S. Bank (7340 N. Philadelphia), St. John's Deli (7920 N. Lombard), Tulip Bakery (8322 N. Lombard), The Man's Shop (8511 N. Lombard), Peninsula Station (8316 N. Lombard), and Patties Home Plate (8501 N. Lombard).

Parade Pins will be available for sale soon. When that information becomes available the Review will let the community know where.

6TH ANNUAL TRASH-2-TREASURE Share • Reuse • Recycle • Cleanup Neighborhood Event for St Johns & Cathedral Park



Saturday, April 26th 9am-3pm
7535 N Chicago Ave at Red Sea Church
Drop-off of Reusables Begins Friday April 25th 4pm-8pm

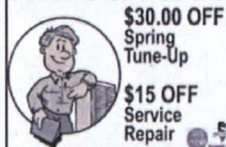
Take What You Need, Leave What You Don't.
\$2 Suggested Donation Per Household.

For more information and a detailed list of accepted items for swap and cleanup visit www.swapnplay.org

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It's PARADE TIME!!

Be a part of the
The St. Johns Review's
May 9, 2014 newspaper!!
It will be the official

St. Johns Parade issue.

Be part of it!!

****Deadline is: Wednesday, April 30, 2014****

Space is limited so hurry with your:

Ads - Articles - Notices - Pictures

Send them in before 3:00pm on April 30!!

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